

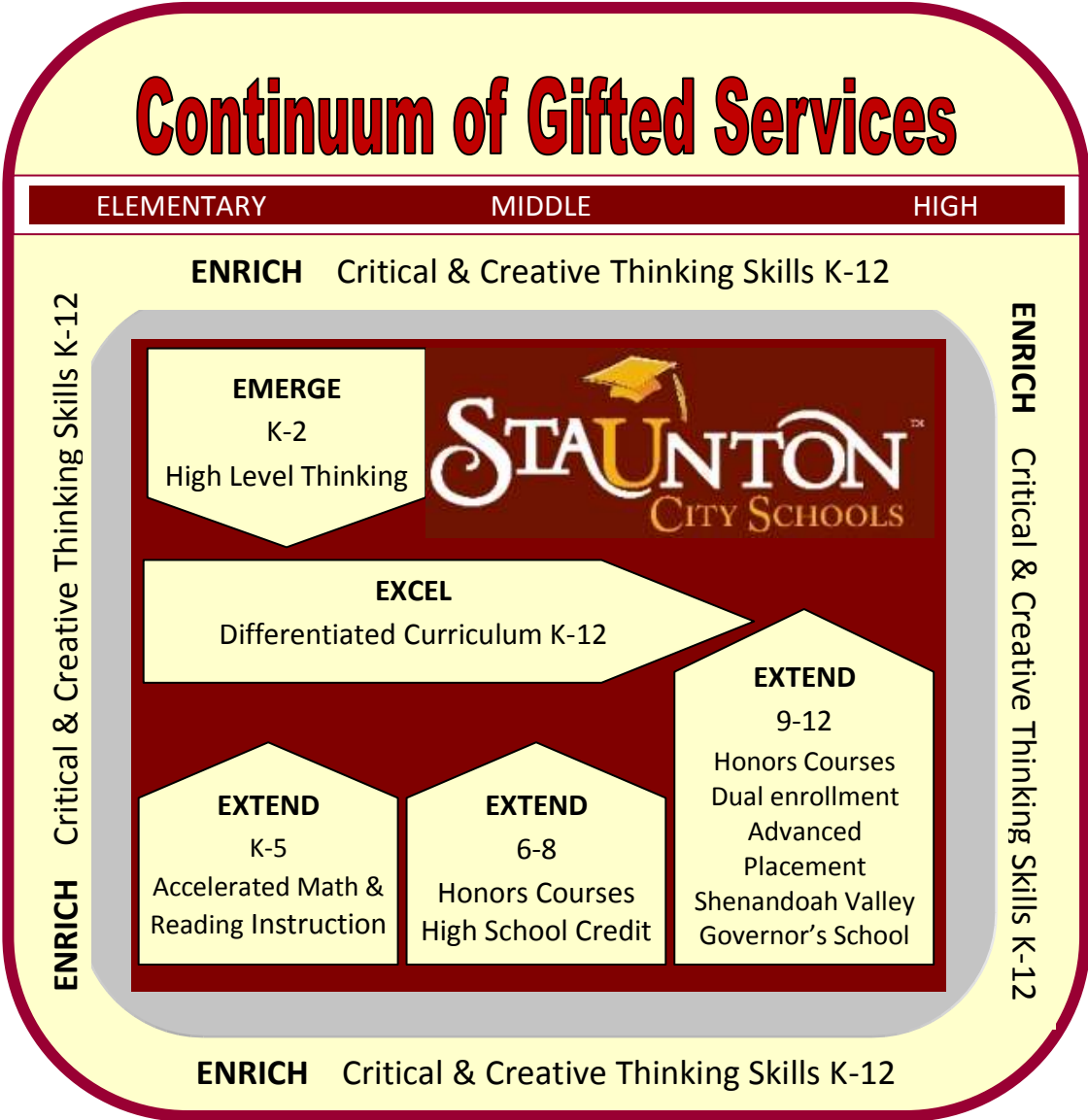
Our Statement of Philosophy

The gifted education program in Staunton City Schools is based on the school division's philosophy of rigorous, dynamic, and reflective instructional programs for all students.

Staunton City Schools is committed to identifying and serving those students in kindergarten through grade twelve who demonstrate high levels of accomplishment, or who show the potential for higher levels of accomplishment, when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment.

For gifted students, this philosophy of empowerment through skills and knowledge demands curricular experiences designed to enhance the students' thinking abilities, academic proficiencies and special talents.

The Staunton City School Board is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination with regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, disability, national origin, or status as a parent. This attitude will prevail in all of its policies concerning staff, students, educational programs, and services, and individuals and entities with whom the Board does business.



Gifted students reach their academic potential through a dynamic curriculum that deals with complex issues, higher order thinking, and depth of learning.

STUDENTS MAY BE REFERRED AT ANY TIME IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

Pool Referral K-2

ELEMENTARY DIFFERENTIATION SPECIALIST collects classroom observations & student responses from EMERGE Program in K-2.

All students are screened in grade 2 with the group CogAT Screening Test. EMERGE Program observations & screening data are then reviewed to create a pool of potential candidates.

Students in the pool are then given the full CogAT test & referred following the teacher referral process.

Teacher Referral K-12

TEACHER completes Referral Form & Teacher Input Form, collects work samples, & submits current grades & recent scores.

PARENT signs Permission for Assessment & completes Parent Input Form.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST conducts individual testing as needed.

DIFFERENTIATION SPECIALIST makes classroom observations, gathers school assessment information & coordinates the referral process.

Parent Referral K-12

PARENT contacts the **DIFFERENTIATION SPECIALIST** or **PRINCIPAL** at the child's school, completes a Referral Form, signs Permission for Assessment, & completes Parent Input Form.

TEACHER completes Teacher Input Form, collects work samples & submits current grades & recent scores.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST conducts individual testing as needed.

DIFFERENTIATION SPECIALIST makes classroom observations, gathers school assessment information & coordinates the

Transfer Referral K-12

PARENT of a student identified for gifted services in another school division contacts the **PRINCIPAL** or **DIFFERENTIATION SPECIALIST** at the child's new school & completes a Referral Form.

DIFFERENTIATION SPECIALIST gathers test data from records or contacts former school. **SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST** reviews data for compatibility with SCS requirements.

If student is found ineligible, he or she may be referred through the SCS process.

The final step in each of the above referral processes (with the exception of compatible transfer referrals) is a meeting of the **ELIGIBILITY COMMITTEE** comprised of the **SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST, DIFFERENTIATION SPECIALIST, & CLASSROOM TEACHER**. Eligibility is based on the guidelines spelled out in the Staunton City Schools Gifted Plan. Parents are notified by letter of the committee's decision. The student may be referred again the following school year.

The Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted can be found on the Staunton City Schools' website at www.staunton.k12.va.us under the headings Administration > Curriculum & Instruction > Gifted Education.

Questions may be directed to Mrs. Dori Walk, Executive Director of Instruction, at (540) 332-3920.



Gifted
Services
2012-2017



Staunton City Schools
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